

LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A retractor assembly comprising:
a support;
a clamp selectively positionable at a desired location on the support;
a retractor shaft connected to the clamp extending away from the clamp and support, and having an end with a shaft axis extending through the end of the retractor shaft;
a connector connected to the retractor shaft at the end of the retractor shaft and spaced by the retractor shaft from the clamp and support by a length along the shaft axis; and
a retractor blade connected to the connector, said retractor blade being angularly positionable about the shaft axis up and down in a plane of ~~relative to~~ a tilting axis.
2. (Previously Presented) The retractor assembly of claim 1 wherein the connector allows pivoting of the retractor blade side to side about a rotation axis intermediate a range of about +/- 60 degrees relative to the shaft axis.
3. (Previously Presented) The retractor assembly of claim 1 wherein the tilting axis is spaced from and perpendicular to the rotation axis.
4. (Previously Presented) The retractor assembly of claim 1 further comprising stops in the connector to limit the angular movement of the retractor blade.
5. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 1 wherein the support is a retractor support ring.
6. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 1 wherein the retractor shaft is substantially linear and extends along the axis.
7. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 1 wherein the connector further comprises a flange clevis connected to the retractor shaft which receives a pivot flange connected to the stem of the retractor blade, and said pivot flange is pivotable about a rotation axis, said rotation axis perpendicularly oriented to the shaft axis and tilting axis.

8. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 7 further comprising a blade attachment boss and the pivot flange is connected to the blade attachment boss which connects to the stem to the retractor blade.

9. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 8 wherein further comprising side slots in the blade attachment boss and the blade attachment boss is connected by a pin restrained by the side slots.

10. (Previously Presented) A retractor assembly comprising:

a support;

a clamp selectively positionable at a desired location on the support;

a retractor shaft connected to the clamp extending away from the clamp and support where the clamp is positioned on the support, said retractor shaft having an end with a shaft axis extending through the end of the retractor shaft;

a connector located toward the end of the retractor shaft, said connector spaced by a length of the retractor shaft along the shaft axis away from the clamp and support and a retractor blade retained to the connector, said retractor blade being selectively angularly positionable about a rotation axis relative to the shaft axis, and said angular position of the retractor blade being limited by stops associated with the connector.

11. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 10 wherein the connector further comprises a slot limiting the angle of the retractor blade relative to the shaft axis.

12. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim 11 further comprising a flange clevis connected to the shaft containing the slot therein, and a pivot flange angularly positionable within the slot thereby allowing the angle of the retractor blade ~~shoulder~~ to be selected.

13. (Previously Presented) The retractor assembly of claim 12 further comprising a blade attachment boss connected to the pivot flange allowing about +/- twenty degrees of movement relative to a tilting axis with said tilting axis perpendicular to the rotation axis.

14. (Previously Presented) The retractor assembly of claim 10 wherein the rotation axis is perpendicular to the shaft axis and wherein the retractor blade rotates perpendicularly to the shaft axis.

15. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 10 wherein the clamp has a locked and an unlocked position when in said locked position said clamp is secured to the support, and when in said unlocked position, said clamp is moveable along the support.

16. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 15 wherein the retractor shaft is linear.

17. (Previously Presented) A retractor assembly comprising:

a support;

a clamp selectively attached to the support;

a retractor shaft connected to the clamp extending away from the clamp and support where the clamp is positioned on the support, said retractor shaft having a shaft axis extending through at least a portion of the retractor shaft;

a connector connected to the retractor shaft, the connector having a slot defined by a top, a bottom and side edges, and the connector spaced by the retractor shaft from the clamp and the support by a length along the shaft axis; and

a retractor blade connected to a hub, said hub retained in said slot of the connector, said slot being in a plane parallel to a plane of the shaft axis, and said hub angularly positionable about a rotation axis within the slot relative to the shaft axis.

18. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 17 wherein the retractor shaft is linear.

19. (Previously Presented) The retractor assembly of claim 17 wherein the slot is laterally positioned to allow side to side movement of the hub in the slot about the rotation axis.

20. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 17 wherein the slot is intersected by the shaft axis.